Fresh Proposals from Private Sector in Power Generation

1772. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Goverament have received fresh proposals from the private sector for creating additional capacity in power generation over the next few years;

(b) whether any such offer has been received for Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar;

(c) if so, the total investment offered in these projects; and

(d) what is the total additional capacity of power to be generated therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A proposal has been received from M/s RPG Enterprises for setting up a coal based thermal power station at Chandil (500 MW) in Bihar at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,637 crores.

Seepage in Tanakpur Power Project

1773. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state .

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tanakpur Hydro-electric project which was commissioned in end of March this year, had to shut down due to massive seepage in its power channel ;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of repairs needed and whether an inquiry has been set up; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The initial filling of the 6.4 km long power channel of the Tanakpur Hydroelectric Project was started in February, 1992 and the generating machines were test synchronised in March end. There was no massive seepage; however, some seepage was observed through a few locations in the last 700 m. reach of the power channel and in order to carry out repairs, a shut down was taken.

(b) and (c) The total cost of modifications, strengthening and repairs has been estimated as about Rupees twenty lakhs by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation. No enquiry has been set up as this is a normal phenomenon during the initial filling stage in canals with high embankment.

Promotion of Wind Power Energy in Bihar

1774. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have prepared any action plan for the promotion of wind energy in the State of Bihar ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to promote wind energy in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) & (b) Government is implementing the wind energy programme in the country, including in the State of Bihar. To assess the wind potential, Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources sanctioned a project in 1987, to the Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA). The project envisages setting up 30 wind mapping stations in various locations in the State for wind resource assessment. Of these only 4 stations have so far been set up by BREDA.

Separately 252 shallow well wind pumps have been installed at different locations for drinking water/micro-irrigation purposes by BREDA, with financial assistance from DNES.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) BREDA has been requested to speed up the resource assessment. Based on this assessment, decisions for wind power generation will be taken. DNES has requested Bihar Government to instruct BREDA to speed up wind assessment studies.

Wind pump demonstration programme will be continued in the State during the Eighth Plan by BREDA, with assistance from DNES.

Increase in Generation of Wind and Solar Energy

1775. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the studies made in generation of wind and solar energy abroad;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to increase energy generation from wind and solar sources in our country; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up pilot schemes of wind and energy generation in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For generation of energy from Wind and Solar energy sources in the country. Government has takeh up a comprehensive programme covering research, development, demonstration and dissemination of various types of systems and devices based on these energy resources. Various types of financial incentives, such as, subsidy, soft term loans and fiscal incentives in the form of depreciation allowance and relief in sales-tax, excise duty and custom duty are provided to the users and manufacturers in different States and Union Territories of the country for harnessing and use of renewable energy systems and devices. Publicity and Awareness campaign are also being undertaken through All India Radio and Doordarshan network in addition to publicity efforts being made on decentralised basis various State Governments and Implementing Agencies.

(c) Solar thermal, Solar photovoltaic and Wind energy systems and devices for various applications continue to be installed under the on-going demonstration and dissemination programmes of the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. A 550 KW Wind Farm Project has been established at Thirumala. The capacity of this project is being increased by 500 KW. Another Wind Farm project of 2 MW has recently been taken up at Ramagiri in Ananthapur District. In addition, a proposal for setting up of 2 MW Wind Farm project at Kakulkonda has been received from the State Government/Implementing Agency.

Failures in the Northern Regional Electricity Grid

1776. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of failures in the Northern Regional Electricity Grid that took place durng the previous and the current year, respectively;

(b) what are the factors responsible for these disruptions;

(c) whether any attempts have been made to evaluate the direct and indirect losses caused by these disruptions;

(d) whether Government have tried to fix some responsibility for such mishaps;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what measures are being taken to avoid such recurrences in future ?